

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 H-03

DRC-01 DOTE-00 /089 W

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R 031710Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1126

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - CAPACITY CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 194039

1. EMBOFF INFORMED MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) OCTOBER 1 THAT WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVES CANNOT MEET IN ROME ON OCTOBER 10-12 AND THAT, IF EARLY TALKS DESIRED, MUST BE IN WASHINGTON.

2. MFA REP LA MORTE TELEPHONED EMBOFF OCTOBER 3 WITH INFORMATION THAT, BECAUSE OF INTERNAL DISAGREEMENT, GOI UNABLE RESPOND IMMEDIATELY RE TIME AND PLACE FOR TALKS. HE SAID ALITALIA (AND THEREFORE CIVILAVIA) DESIRE INITIATE DISCUSSIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND ARE WILLING ACCEPT OCTOBER 10-12 IN WASHINGTON. MFA HAS NO POSITION YET, ACCORDING LA MORTE, BUT ADDED COSTS FOR WASHINGTON AND TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF PERSONNEL IN OFFICE DEALING WITH AVIATION AFFAIRS MAKE TRIP TO WASHINGTON AT THAT TIME VERY DIFFICULT.

3. LA MORTE ALSO REEMPHASIZED THAT MFA STRONGLY PREFERS TO ALTERNATE SITES FOR CAPACITY CONSULTATIONS. HE HINTED MFA THOUGHT THERE WAS INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING TO THIS EFFECT. (EMBASSY UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH "UNDERSTANDING.")

4. COMMENT: AT THE MOMENT, LA MORTE IS ALONE IN OFFICE DEALING
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WITH AVIATION AFFAIRS; HIS TWO SENIOR COLLEAGUES ARE TEMPORARILY

OUT OF ROME. MFA WILL WISH TO BE REPRESENTED ON ITALIAN DELEGATION BUT WOULD HAVE PROTOCOL PROBLEMS WITH CIVILAVIA IF NO ONE SENIOR TO LA MORTE IS AVAILABLE.

5. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT CIVILAVIA MAY WISH TO RESUME CONSULTATIONS ON SUMMER SEASON CAPACITY UNDER PARA 5(E) MOU WHEN US AND ITALIAN SUMMER SEASON DATA AVAILABLE, SINCE ACTUAL TRAFFIC HAS NOT APPARENTLY BEEN AS FAVORABLE AS US CARRIERS ANTICIPATED. IF WASHINGTON IS SITE FOR WINTER CAPACITY TALKS, EMBASSY CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY FOR RESUMED SUMMER CAPACITY CONSULTATIONS TO BE HELD IN ROME.

6. EMBASSY WILL PASS ON GOI DECISION RE TIME AND PLACE FOR WINTER CAPACITY TALKS AS SOON AS AVAILABLE. ACCORDING LA MORTE, HOWEVER, SUCH DECISION NOT RPT NOT LIKELY BEFORE OCTOBER 5 AT EARLIEST.
BEAUDRY

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